

Appl. No. 10/060,310
Amdt. dated June 30, 2006
Reply to Office action dated May 31, 2006

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following paragraph:

[0030] The security client 10 provides security services to data, otherwise referred to as enhancing data, before/after transmission to/from a server. The security client 10 can be deployed in software, hardware, and/or firmware. Preferably, security client 10 comprises a logical unit programmed or constructed to perform server side security and authorization services. Alternatively, security client 10 may be realized by computer readable program code embodied in a computer usable readable storage medium such as a CD ROM, a memory, a USB memory device, a SONY Memory Stick™, a disk, a smart card, a flash card, a carrier wave, or other computer usable medium. For example, security client 10 may be realized by software run on a workstation class machine or with a smartcard. Likewise a wireless PDA or cell phone might have the client loaded therein. The security client provides a combination of some or all of the following enhancement services: authentication, integrity, confidentiality and non-repudiation. These services are typically implemented but not limited to digital signature, key exchange, encryption, e.g., 3DES (2 or 3 key), biometrics, signature verification, and decryption. These services are provided in an algorithm and mechanism independent fashion. Any mechanism can be used as long as both security client 10 and the cryptographic gateway 40 support it. For example, authentication may be performed using the RSA, DSA, or elliptic curve algorithms. Optionally, a user might be identified with a biometric like a fingerprint, iris scan, retinal scan, voiceprint, etc. This feature allows the level of protection to be configured based on the sensitivity of the data transmitted. It is expected that new enhancement techniques will be developed in the future. Application of such techniques is contemplated by this invention.